HOW OLD IS THE BATTERY?

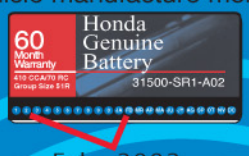
The older the battery, the more likely it is that it will fail. Check the battery to determine its age using one of these four methods:

1. Date of Vehicle Manufacture

If it is an original-equipment battery, you can go by the vehicle manufacture month and year.

2. Punch-out Dater

Some batteries have a label with the month and year punched out.



Feb. 2002

3. Date Code Sticker

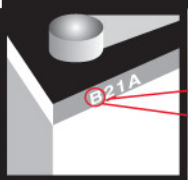
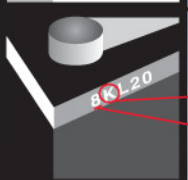
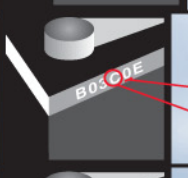
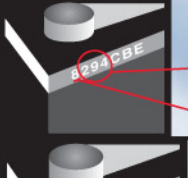
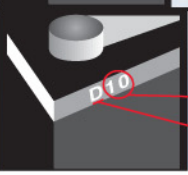
Some batteries have an attached sticker with a two digit code. On one side, the month code = A thru M (skip I).

Aug. 2001

Mar. 2002

4. Heat-stamped Date Code

All batteries should have a code heat-stamped into the case or cover, usually along the top edges of the battery. If the code is longer than the examples in the table below, focus on the first several digits in the code and ignore the rest.

BATTERY MANUFACTURER BRANDS	CONTAINER / COVER CHARACTERISTICS	HEAT-STAMPED DATE CODE EXAMPLE
Johnson Controls: Interstate Batteries, Motorcraft, Sears Diehard, Wal-Mart Everstart, Auto Zone Duralast, Pep Boys Prostart, Costco Kirkland, Advance Autoparts Autocraft	• Two removable 3-plug vent caps. • Vent caps have angled corners.	 year – 2002 month – Feb. month code= A thru L
Delphi: AC/Delco, Delphi, Freedom, Voyager, Walmart Everstart, Professional, Platinum	• Nonremovable 6-plug vent strip, heat-sealed to cover. • " Charge eye" built into cover. • Waffled end-walls and container bottoms on " Dura Power" and GM OE lines.	 month – Oct. year – 1998 month code= A thru M (skip I)
Exide Technologies: Exide, Champion, Stowaway, Nascar Select, Nautilus, Wal-Mart Everstart, Tractor Supply Traveler, American, National, Power Breed	• Two removable 3-plug vent caps. • Most have a handle built into the cover.	 year – 2000 month – Mar. month code= A thru M (skip I)
East Penn: Deka	Not distinguishable from other batteries because East Penn purchases containers, covers and vents from independent suppliers.	 day of year – Oct. 20 year – 1998
Douglas: Douglas, Climate Master, Farmland, Legacy Platinum, Omni, SafeGuard, SurePower	Not distinguishable from other batteries because Douglas buys containers, covers and vents from independent suppliers.	 D O U G L A S D O U 94 95 96 97 98 99 00 01 02 03 month – Oct. year – 2001

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